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EXAMINER

POON, KING Y

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2625

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Objections***

1. Claim 1, 12-16 are objected to because of the following informalities: for example, the end of claim 1, 13 states "...if the predicted decoding method is the second decoding method, the band height is reduced to half of that in case of the first decoding method." Page 16, lines 10-16, S303, 304 of applicant's invention teaches predicting decoding method and if the predicted decoding method is the second decoding method, the band height is set or reduced to half of the band height of the first decoding method. Although the word "that" in both claims 1 and 14 appears to be referring to "band height", "that" still fails to particularly point out the subject matter. Appropriate correction is required.

Suggested language that would overcome the objection is by using: ", and if the predicted decoding method is the second decoding method, the band height is reduced to half of the band height of the first decoding method."

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1, 12-16 are allowable if amended to overcome claim objections.

***Conclusion***

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to King Y. Poon whose telephone number is 571-272-7440. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

August 31, 2006

  
KING Y. POON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER